PROCEEDINGS

of

THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

FIRST ASSEMBLY.

SIXTH SESSION.

Wednesday, the 24th July 1935/8th Karkadakam 1110.

The Assembly met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at 11 A. M., the President presiding.

NEW MEMBER SWORN IN.

Mr. K. George was sworn in, and he signed the rolls.

REFERENCE TO THE LATE MR. M. N. NAIR.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir,it is my painful duty to announce to the House the sad news of the sudden and unexpected death of one of the Honourable members of the House, *viz.*, Mr. M. N. Nair. Till a couple of days ago, he was hale and hearty. He was in his seat in the House on Saturday. On Sunday after-noon he was taken suddenly ill and last night he passed away. I knew Mr. Nair, for several years. He was a good friend and a great patriot. He was simple and unostentatious in his habits. His heart was with the poor. He lived with them and worked for them. It is such a good friend of the poor that the country has lost. This House has also lost a useful and respected member. The House will remember the spirited speech he delivered on Friday last. He was a small capitalist himself, an employer of labour, and he put up a strong defence in favour of the employer. But he did not forget the cause of labour. That shows the man in his true characteristic. His sympathy was always for the poor. On many an occasion I had discussed matters with him, and he always showed great concern for the poor and the unemployed. It is such a good patriot that we have lost. Words fail me to express my feelings fully just now. He has been called away from our midst never to return. The unexpected has happened and we have only to bow to the inevitable and pray for his soul. Sir, I move that this House record its sorrow at the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. M. N. Nair, a respected and Honourable Member of this House, and convey to the members of his family and his other relations its deep sense of sympathy in their bereavement. I also move that this House be adjourned for an hour as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

G. P. T- 30. 350.

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MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Sir, I beg to associate myself with all that the Chief Secretary, on behalf of Government, has said about Mr. M. N. Nair. It is a great calamity that Mr. M. N. Nair, who was so full of energy, was taken away in the middle of a useful life. I knew Mr. M. N. Nair for the last 25 years. Even when he was a student in the Trichinopoly College, he used to send me letters of congratulation whenever anything good in the interests of the public was done by me and my friends. Many honourable traits in his character have endeared him to all people in this country. Mr. M. N. Nair was a man of a very strong constitution, robust health, inexhaustible energy and infectious enthusiasm. His pre-occupation was service. He was a common bond between the various communities in the State. Mr. M. N. Nair had a very large heart. He was generous to his friends and he was always fair-minded. He has left a gap which is difficult to fill. It is only meet and proper that this House should place on record its high appreciation of the late Mr. M. N. Nair's talents, his goodness of heart and his patriotic endeavours in the service of the country.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*) Sir, in supporting the motion for the adjournment of the House, I fully associate myself with all the sentiments expressed by my friends the Chief Secretary and the Deputy President. Mr. M. N. Nair was a very close and personal friend of mine for very many years. I have been associated with him in social and public work for a very long time. He was an ardent social reformer and his motto was service. His death is an irrepairable loss to this Assembly, to the public life in this country in general and the Nair community, in particular, of which he was a very valued member. It is but fit that we should record our appreciation of the services rendered by him to this Assembly and the public by adjourning this meeting for an hour as a mark of respect to his memory.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Sir,, I also associate myself with all that has been said about the late Mr. M. N. Nair. Many years ago, at a conference held at Changanacherry presided over by Mr. V. K. Sankara Menon, Judge of the Chief Court of Cochin, Mr. M. N. Nair delivered a very impressive speech which was in effect his *debut* in public life. From that date we have been very close friends and on confidential terms. He was a graduate of the Madras University of many years' standing; and if he had cared, he could have entered Sirkar service without creating waves of communal jealousies, in those days. But he preferred a free public life, never caring for the service under Government. In the field of public life he was leading, he attained conspicuous prominence by the very many gifts with which nature had endowed him. He was a powerful speaker, of firm stand, with determination to break through obstacles in his way. With all that, he was a very humble and unpretentious gentleman throughout his life. He had many friends and many eyes would be left moist

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by his departure. Enterprise was in his vein and I am sure there are many enterprises now in Travancore in which he must have had a hand. He was a very useful member of society and his loss is irreplaceable, irreparable not only to this House, not only to the community to which he belonged, but also to the general public of Travancore. Therefore, Sir, I support the motion to record the sorrowful event of this death, and if I may add to it, to convey our condolence to the bereaved family as also to adjourn the House for an hour as a token of respect to the departed. May his soul rest in peace!

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Sir, may I also add my quota of respect to the memory of the departed? I do so on behalf of myself and on behalf of all those persons who had the good fortune to be intimately associated with Mr. M. N. Nair. My association with him began as early as my school age. It may be surprising to the members of this House to hear that the present English school at Kumarakam was first started with seven of us as students sitting at the feet of one teacher and M. N. Nair one of us. In many other activities, we were intimately associated together and through college life we pulled on. It seems to me that there is no one here who is more bound, and better entitled, to pay respect to his memory than myself. Mr. M. N. Nair was a very ardent soul who had in his heart a very warm corner for all persons who came near him. His sympathies were not circumscribed within any narrow limits. He was perfectly humane and his sympathies embraced all persons with whom he came into contact. As a public man, he shot out during the last decade or so, not on behalf of any special interest, but on behalf of the good of the country. If, on any occasion, he was particularly confined to any sphere, that was the sphere of the community to which he belonged. I might testify in this House that one of the stamp of Mr. M. N Nair would be an ornament to any community to which he belonged and any community might be proud of having him. He has done his work for the upliftment of the poor village of which we both were members; and he has done more than all. Sir, on an occasion like this, it is not right to say much more on the personal qualities of the departed friend, and, therefore, I associate myself with all the sentiments that have been expressed in this House by my learned friends.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Sir, it is with a heavy heart that I beg to associate myself with the sentiments given expression to by various friends here regarding the sad demise of Mr. M.N. Nair. Though it is only the fifth day since we met in this session, we heard two powerful speeches made by the departed soul on co-operation and on the Factories Bill. He was laid up only for a day or two and the news of his unexpected demise is simply shocking to us. Nature has been so cruel in snatching him away from our midst. He was an ardent social worker, a very great patriot working not only for the community to which he belonged but also for the welfare of the country. At this time it is only our humble duty to convey to the bereaved members of his family our deep-felt sorrow. May his soul rest in peace!

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MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : പരേതനായ മിസ്റ്റർ. എം. എൻ. നായരുടെ പെട്ടെന്നുണ്ടായ നിര്യാണത്തിൽ അനുശോചിക്കുന്നതിനായി ഒരവസരം തന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു വളരെ ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യം ഉണ്ടു. മിസ്റ്റർ. എം. എൻ. നായരുമായി എനിക്കു വളരെ കാലത്തെ പരിചയം ഉണ്ടു്. ചുരുക്കിൽ കുറെക്കാലമായിട്ടു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വ്യാപാരകേന്ദ്രം ആലപ്പുഴയിൽ സ്ഥാപിച്ചു തൊഴിൽ നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും ആണു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സ്വഭാവത്തെപ്പറ്റി പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഇവിടെ എന്റെ ബഹുമാന്യസ്നേഹിതന്മാർ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു് അക്ഷരാപ്രതി ശരിയാണു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വിയോഗം അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സമുദായത്തിനുമാത്രമല്ല പൊതുവെ മനുഷ്യസമുദായത്തിനു തന്നെ ഒരു വലിയ നഷ്ടമാണെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഇവിടെ പറയാതെ നിവർത്തിയില്ല. ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : Sir, I wish to endorse the sentiments expressed in this House by the previous speakers touching the untimely and sudden passing away of one of the honourable members of this House, Mr. M. N. Nair, who was representing Kottayam constituency. I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Nair for the last fifteen years and I have no hesitation in saying that sincerity of heart, nobility of mind and a heart for the suffering humanity—these were the conspicuous traits in his character. I have had the privilege of associating with him in some of his activities and I know personally that he possessed a very large heart indeed. Sir, the loss sustained by this House in the sudden passing away of Mr. Nair is irreparable indeed; and it is not only a loss to this House but it is a loss to the country. Sir, I move that this House place on record the sense of grief and loss felt by this House in the untimely death of one of its honourable members. Peace be to his soul ?

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : Sir, I beg to associate myself with every word that has fallen from the lips of the previous speakers in this House on this painful occurrence. I knew Mr. M. N. Nair for very many years intimately. He hsd a great many good qualities which are but rarely met with. He passed the B. A. degree examination several years ago, and it was easy for him to secure a good Government job he could have made money by other means, if only he had cared for it. But he deliberately led a different walk of life. He was a social and public worker because he was a friend of the poor and his motto was 'service'. Besides being a great social and public worker, he was a good speaker, and he followed the faculty of an appreciation for literature. He delivered a very interesting and instructive literary speech some years ago at the

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first All-Kerala Literary Conference at Edapalli. The loss of such a patriot is indeed a real loss to the country and it is only meet that we, who are assembled here and who have been left behind, should place on record our deep sense of the bereavement that this House and the country have sustained by his untimely death, communicate our condolence to his family and other relations, and adjourn this House for an hour as a mark of respect to his memory.

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jenmies, South*) : ചീഫ് സിക്രട്ടറി കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാനും യോജിക്കുന്നു ഈ സഭയിലെ ഒരു മെമ്പറായിരുന്ന മിസ്റ്റർ എം. എൻ. നായരുടെ അകാല നിര്യാണത്തിൽ ഞാൻ അനുശോചിക്കുകയും അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു നിത്യശാന്തിപ്രദാനം ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ജഗദീശ്വരനോടു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*) : മിസ്റ്റർ എം. എൻ. നായരുടെഅകാലനിര്യാണം ജാതിമതഭേദമെന്യേ സകലരുടേയും സഹതാപം രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന ഒരു പ്രധാനസംഭവമാകുന്നു.

കേരളത്തിൽ പൊതുവെ വിവിധജാതി ജനസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും അദ്ദേഹം അഭിനന്ദനീയനായിരുന്നു. മാന്യമായ വിധത്തിൽ തന്റെ ജീവിതം സമുദായ പ്രവർത്തന പാകതയാൽ പ്രശോഭിതമാക്കി തീർക്കുവാൻ മി. നായർ വളരെ യത്നങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട് ഈ അത്യാഹിതം വിചാരിച്ചിരിക്കാതെ സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാകുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ അപരിഹാര്യമായ നഷ്ടത്തിൽ തീരാദുഃഖത്തിനു അവലംബികളായ ബന്ധുമിത്രാദികളോടും, പൊതുവെ സമുദായത്തോടും, ഈ അസംബ്ലി അംഗങ്ങളോടും, ഉള്ള സഹതാപത്തെ ഞാൻ രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു. അസംബ്ലിയുടെ അനുശോചനം ഇപ്രകാരം വെളിവാക്കുന്ന ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു.

PRESIDENT : It was with feelings of very great regret that I heard about the sad demise of our colleague, Mr. M. N. Nair. His death has been as sudden as it has been premature. I feel sure that his soul will take some satisfaction in the fact that he died while yet working in public cause. I feel sure that the sentiments which have been given expression to on the floor of this House by members of the various communities will hearten the members of his family to feel that their loss is also shared by this House. I have had the pleasure of knowing the late Mr. Nair for a short period. Though the friendship was brief, I can assure the House that my respect and regard for him was as great and as keen as that of the other members who have spoken and whose friendship has been much longer. I associate myself fully with the sentiments that have been expressed by all the members who have spoken to-day; and I shall direct the Secretary to convey to

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[President.]

the members of the bereaved family the resolution which has been just now moved and which, I take it, meets with the unanimous approval of the whole House and, if that is the case, I wish the whole House will express its unanimous consent by rising in their places.

(All the members stood up.)

And, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, I direct that all proceedings of the House be suspended until 12 noon.

The Assembly adjourned at 11-27 A. M.

The House re-assembled at 12 noon with the President in the Chair.

PRESIDENT: The House will now resume general discussion on the Budget. Mr. Thanu Pillai.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, I was referring to the Public Service Recruitment G. O. yesterday. There has been some demand in recent years for greater opportunities to enter public service being afforded to members of some communities who are less represented in the service than others. A Committee was appointed, which was composed of members belonging to almost all the major communities in the State. That Committee consisted of 11 members and a Chairman who happened to be a Brahmin. There were two Nair members and two European members of very high standing in the service of the State. There was at first one lady member who happened to be Roman Catholic, and later on she was replaced by a Thiyya lady. The other members were representatives of communities that clamoured for larger representation in the service. That Committee submitted its report. The major recommendations were practically unanimous. The Committee divided the services into two classes, the inferior and the superior as under the Service Regulations. As for the inferior service, they proposed distribution of appointments among the various communities on a rotation basis and in proportion to the strength of each community. As for the superior service, they recommended a competitive examination and also a rotation the number of places for each communal group being with reference to the numerical strength and the extent of literacy of that group. The majority of the Committee said that the results of the competitive examination should be made use of only to select the best members of the same community.

There was difference of opinion on this matter. With the exception of this difference of opinion, the recommendations of the Committee in regard to recruitment to the superior services were also practically unanimous. As for the recommendation regarding recruitment to the inferior service, I may bring to the notice of this House that the proposal emanated from Mr. Thariath Kunjithomman, the earliest and warmest advocate of communal representation, Mr. P. S. Mohammad an equally warm advocate of communalism, Mr. M. Govindan, and others. (Mr. K. Sankaran stood up to ask a question). I am not going to yield.

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According to the recommendation of that Committee, the number of seats allowed to the members of the Nair community was 10 out of 58. Now what is it that we find in the G. O.? It is 5 out of 55. Sir, I do not wish to go into the details of the proposals in the G. O as regards the intermediate and higher grades; not because there is no objection with regard to them, but because my time is very limited. I therefore confine myself to a very definite and clear fact. That Committee, composed of representatives of all communities, proposed that the Nairs should be given 10 places out of 58 in the inferior grade. Now I find that it has been reduced to one half of that number. I put this question to the Government Benches, "Why was this done"? Where was the demand for it? When the staunchest advocates of communal representation themselves were prepared to give 10 places out of 58 to the Nairs, I want the Government Benches to tell me why it is that it is reduced to five in the G. O. Whose was the demand for the reduction? The members of the Committee who made this recommendation were men who knew the conditions of the country, who knew the various communities of the State, the history of the communities, the economic position of the communities and the way in which their recommendation would affect the communities and the services It was men like Messrs. Kunjitommen, Govindan, Mohammad and others that made this recommendation.

But how is it that Government has reduced it to one half of the number, I ask. The answer is simple. There has been an agitation going on in the country which was referred to yesterday by Mr. Padmanabhan. One of the objects of that agitation is to see that the caste Hindus get as little place in the service and as few seats in the Legislature as possible. Now these agitators have been singling out of the Nair community for their attack, because it happens to be the most influential, the most numerous and the most prominent part of the caste Hindu section. If the Nair is eliminated, the whole caste Hindu section is eliminated. That is the reason why the Nair is made the target of their attack by these agitators. My point is that Government are yielding, unreasonably yielding, to the clamour of these agitators. Are not the Nairs, are not the caste Hindus, the people of this land? Have they not got a right to live in this land? Simply because the agitators threaten to appeal to the British Parliament, to His Majesty, are the Government to yield? Is one section of the people to suffer because another section carries on a violent and unreasonable agitation? Otherwise how can Government account for this?

Government threw away the report of the Committee and referred the whole question to Dr. Nokes, giving him complete discretion to deal with it and make recommendations. What are the qualifications of Dr. Nokes, I ask, in preference to a Committee composed of Messrs. Tariathu Kunjitommen, P. S. Mohammad, C. O. Madhavan and others to deal with a question of this nature? What does he know of the conditions of this country? Does he know the

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history of the communities, the economic position of these communities, how the members of these communities happened to get appointments and other relevant things? Is it a purely judicial matter? Even if it is, how is it, I ask, that he happened to hear the representatives of certain communities and not of other communities? When I gave notice of a question in this House as to whether Dr. Nokes would interview representatives of various communities in connection with his work, whether he would take evidence before he prepared the report, whether opportunities would be given to all communities for expressing their views, Government did not choose to give a reply. Several friends asked me to go and see Dr. Nokes on this question. I said it would not be proper. Unless I was asked, I would not go. But he granted interviews to and heard the members of other communities. Mr. Kunjitommen recently published an article in the newspapers that he saw the Dewan, the Chief Secretary, Dr. Nokes and others often and placed his views before them and it is because of that that the present G. O. is issued in this present form, to the great advantage of his community. What does it show? Dr. Nokes did not judge in a judicial manner. He heard certain sections of the people to the deteriment of other sections Before he thought of hearing representatives of certain communities, he ought to have issued an instruction to representatives of all communities or he should have decided on materials placed before him without hearing anybody. After all, what did he know? What were the matters that he considered? When his report was received, Government kept it a dead secret. They would not publish it. What I want to stress is, as seen from the G. O., that Government are yielding to the unreasonable agitation referred to already, to the great detriment of the caste Hindu communities They would do any injustice to the caste Hindus to placate the agitators. They would place the caste Hindus at the mercy of the agitators and at this rate, I fear a time may come when the interests of the caste Hindus will be completely ignored and they would be nowhere. There will be no knowing as to where the cause of Hindus will stand.

The other important question was mentioned here yesterday, *viz.*, the representation in the Legislature. I hear that something is going on behind the screens in regard to that question also. If this matter also is to be dealt with in the way in which representation in the service has been dealt with, if the case of the caste Hindus is going to be ignored here also, the consequences cannot but be disastrous. They refrain from agitating because they do not wish to embarrass Government. Is this the reward for their attitude, I ask? I warn the Government that, if they want peace in the country, justice should be done between community and community, between individual and individual. They ought to take all sections of the community equally into their confidence. They should not allow one section to ventilate its grievances before them without giving opportunities to others. They ought to consult the views of every community. If they propose any change or reform in respect of the Legislature, I may tell them that they should place their proposals before the public, they

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should hear all sides and go into the matter dispassionately and arrive at an impartial decision.

Sir, no Government can consider itself to have done its duty by merely yielding to the clamour of only one section of the community, however violent it may be. That shows not the strength, but the weakness of Government. A strong Government would deal with every section of the people equally and fairly.

Sir, I hope that the G. O. will be suitably modified, There are several other objectionable features also in it. But I have no time now to deal with the injustice done to certain communities by its various other provisions. I may submit to the House that, if certain communities are found in large numbers in certain Departments, it is not because they were appointed by their own men. A large section of the Nairs found in the Education Department was appointed by a Christian Officer, Mr. O. M. Cherian. A large section of Nairs found in the Excise Department were appointed by a Roman Catholic Christian, Mr. Van Ross. Nairs in the Police Department were appointed by European Commissioners of Police. Similarly, in the case of other Departments also, it will be seen that Nairs were appointed because they were competent and available in large numbers. Simply because members of some communities are already found in larger numbers in some Departments than members of other communities, the present generation of the former communities should not be penalised.

With regard to the Legislative Reforms, I hope, Sir, that the Government will consider the matter very well, discuss it with all sections of the people, publish their proposals, invite criticism on them and then make their final decssion.

Sir, I want to make a few observations about the Budget. The Financial Secretary pretends to know the present economic situation of the country. The answer given by the Financial Secretary to a question put to him yesterday is that the economic depression is practically over. It is on that basis that the Budget has been framed. Has the Financial Secretary compared the budget figures of the years 1104 and 1105 with the figures for 1110 and 1111? Such a comparison clearly shows that the depression is still continuing. The receipts under Registration, Stamps, Land Revenue and other items are declining. The fall is persitent. The budget put forward on the wrong assumption that the economic depression is over cannot but be unsatisfactory.

Now Government are embarking on a policy of themselves undertaking industrial concerns. In regard to the Paper Factory alone, they make a deviation. It is clear that the *eatta* from which pulp is made is ours, the power is ours. Why do Government think of inviting a foreign firm to start the industry? What are the terms agreed upon between that firm and the Government? Do the Government undertake to supply the *eatta* to that Company? If so, on what terms? What cost will Government have to incur on that account? Will it result in profit or loss? Sir, from the facts placed before us, it is not at all clear whether the question has been well considered. It appears to me that Paper Industy is one in respect of which there is a large home-market. We can sell the paper that we manufacture in our own

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[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

State. We are about to manufacture rubber, and porcelain for which we have to depend on outside markets. But in the case of paper, it is not so. We can sell it in Travancore itself. In the case of an industry like that, what is the reason of inviting a foreign firm to start the manufacture? Is it difficult for the Government to finance the industry? I wish to get a statement about these facts.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) Let me in the first place thank you, Sir, for kindly responding to our request to extend the time for the discussion of the budget by increasing the number of days from two to three for the general discussion of the budget; but at the same time, Sir, I may say that, though the Government have been generous enough to respond to our request, the time granted is still not sufficient and hope that more time will in future be allotted for Demands for grants also.

Before I proceed to the remarks which I wish to make on the budget, let me associate myself with my friend Mr. Thanu Pillai in his request to Government that they will take the public also into their confidence in regard to the proposals for Franchise Reform and the reconstitution of the electorates, which are said to be engaging the serious attention of Government. I think, Sir, as all communities are interested in the decision of this question, Government will see their way to publish their proposals beforehand for inviting public opinion and take a final decision only after hearing what the public have to say on the subject.

Coming to the budget itself, Sir, most of the points have already been dealt with by the members; and I shall therefore confine my remarks to a few points which I consider to be vital. In the first place, it is very pleasing to note that the Government, in framing the present budget, has swerved out of the beaten track and, taking courage in both hands, has ventured upon bold schemes of industrial development and beautification of the capital city in the country.

In regard to the industrial undertakings initiated by Government, they have been warned by some honourable members of the danger of Government directly starting commercial concerns in view of past experience. Now, Sir, not only on the floor of the House but in the press and on the platform, it has been over and over stressed by the public that the Government, who alone can command the capital and the technical knowledge necessary for industrial development, should take up the industrial development of the State. And therefore I must congratulate the Government upon the bold step that they have taken in launching these industrial enterprises; and I cannot blame them for what they propose to do in this direction. That is not to say that some amount of caution is not necessary. I have no doubt that the Government will take every reasonable precaution to prevent the whole thing collapsing. But even if these undertakings end in loss, I think it is worth while trying them but I fervently hope that they will not, but will result in promoting the economic prosperity of the State.

Now, in regard to the beautification of the capital for which a large amount of money has been allotted, I look forward with delight to

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the prospect of Trivandrum developing into a very beautiful up-to-date city and the vision fascinates me, I hope I may live to enjoy the amenities of the improved Trivandrum city. It appears to me, however, that, along with this town planning scheme, equal or greater attention should have been paid, in framing the budget, to the needs of the rural areas. In the first place, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that, in undertaking this Thambanoor-Observatory Road, the Government should have seriously considered the position of the very large number of poor people, especially Harijans, who are occupying that valley ; but I see no scheme or proposal in the budget for housing these people who will be turned out of their homes; and therefore, before they undertake the evacuation of the area, I hope that the Government will pay serious attention to this important question. These people live by their day labour in the town and very serious inconvenience will be caused to them if provision is not made for housing them in the town itself.

Another matter which I wish to bring to the notice of Government is rural reconstruction. Now, Sir, there is no doubt that there is great unemployment in the country. It is not confined to the educated classes alone. The Government hopes that by the starting of the clay Refining and Porcelain Factory a great deal of unemployment could be relieved. I am sorry I cannot share in this optimism of the Government. A handful of people may get work by this ; but I do not think that will be sufficient to remedy the widespread unemployment in the rural parts of the country. A bold step taken in the direction of rural reconstruction and the revival of rural industry alone can relieve this unemployment. I hope therefore Government will emulate the India Government in allotting a reasonable and adequate amount of money for rural re-construction and take up the work in their own hands as early as possible.

Improvement of means of communication in rural areas is another subject which has not received that attention which it deserves. Although the D. P. W. Budget, with the capital investments, amounts to nearly 98 lakhs of rupees, out of this amount, only an incredibly small sum of thirty thousand rupees has been allotted for the construction of roads. There is a sum of Rs. 1,47,000 allotted in the budget for this purpose, but out of this Rs. 66,000 is for the improvement of roads in Trivandrum. Of the remaining Rs. 80,000 and odd over Rs. 50,000 is for improvement of culverts, roads, etc. So that for actual building of new roads the amount allotted is only Rs. 30,000. I need hardly say it is a very small amount. During the recent malarial epidemic, the Director of Public Health told me that he was very heavily handicapped in the matter of carrying relief to the poor people who lived in the remote parts of the country and were unable to come to the treatment centres on account of the absence of roads. The need for more communications needs no proof. It appears to me therefore the attention paid by the Government to this all-important matter is not at all adequate ; but I hope this matter will soon engage the serious attention of Government.

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[Mr. Changanachery K. Parameswaran Pillai.]

The upliftment of the depressed classes, in which I am particularly interested, is another subject to which I should like to invite serious attention. Rs. 10,000 allotted for this purpose cannot be said to adequate, considering the magnitude of the work to be done. But it is deplorable that the Protector of the depressed classes is not able to spend even this small sum of Rs. 10,000 in one year. He has been returning to the Government very generously about Rs. 6,000 to 7,000 out of this allotment every year. Probably the amount spent out of the allotment covers only his own pay and the establishment charges. This may be satisfactory from the standpoint of Government revenues but from the standpoint of the Harijans who are to be benefited by this allotment, the policy stands self-condemned. It is said that the Protector of the depressed classes has not been able to spend this money as the schemes submitted by him are not sanctioned by Government. Red-tape-ism is said to be at the bottom of the trouble. I hope that Government will examine this matter: and if it is true that delay in obtaining Government sanction for schemes submitted is the cause of this apparent inefficiency of the department, it will be rectified.

Another matter for which provision in the budget is inadequate is medical relief and public health. Yesterday when I was in the general Hospital, I was told that there are only one hundred and ninety seven beds there, while there are five hundred in-patients. You may probably think how, when there are only 197 beds, five hundred in-patients can be accommodated in the Hospital. But that is a fact and the excess number is accommodated in the verandah. Now, Sir, I am very anxious that my advocacy of the cause of these poor patients should not result in a stringent order to the Darbar Physician not to admit more patients than can be conveniently accommodated in the hospital. It is a very great relief to them that they get food and treatment, even though the accommodation is poor: and that should not be denied to them. What I wish to impress upon the House is the urgent need for providing more accommodation in the General Hospital, but till that is done, the patients may be permitted to remain in the verandah as is being done now. My request is that Government should bestow greater attention upon providing suitable accommodation in the General Hospital so that it may accommodate at least 500 patients. I may also say that more hospitals should be given to rural areas.

With regard to the Public Health Department the following passage from the Health Bulletin issued by that Department, will give us some idea of Public Health in the country. The incidence of such diseases as cholera, typhoid, small-pox, malaria, filariasis, leprosy, yaws, tuberculosis etc., is a subject for serious attention.

> "Again, a study of the Census figures for the past three decades shows that, while the proportion of lepers to the general population in India has been more or less stationary during the thirty years, in Travancore there has been an increase of 97 per cent. in the incidence of leprosy, the population increasing only by 70 per cent. Thus we find that there is a high incidence and rapid spread of the disease here".

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Now, Sir, this diplorable state ot affairs ought to be taken into consideration by Government. Therefore in dealing wjth the Public Health Department budget, the Government should be more liberal than they are at present. I see from the budget that, instead of increasing the allotment for the Health Department, the budget has been cut down by 50 or 60 thousand rupees. That I think, Sir, is not a right policy or good economy. This cut has prevented the Health Department from starting a Health Unit in Shertalla taluk where a Health Unit is absolutely necessary as the incidence of filariasis is highest there. I think that is a matter which the Government ought to take into consideration.

Another matter which I wish to mention is the treatment given to the Legislative Bodies by Government. It has been remarked by some of the previous speakers that the resolutions of the House are not given effect to by Government, at any rate not fully. I fully agree with those remarks—I wish particularly to draw the attention of the House to another direction in whicht he legislature is wholly ignored by the Government and that is that large amounts of money are now being spent by Government under the power alleged to be vested in them by Section 32 of the Legislative Reforms Regulation. Under Section 32 of the Regulation, about 5 lakhs of rupees were spent in 1108 by Government. Let us examine whether the Government were justified in spending the money under Section 32. Going through the whole list of expenditure on that head I find that out of Rs. 5 lakhs spent there are only two small items which rightly fall under this Section. The Section says :

> "Notwithstanding anything contained on this Regulation, Our Dewan shall have have power, in cases of emergency, to authorise such expenditure as may, in the opinion of Our Government, be necessary in the interest of Our Government or for the carrying on of any Department or for the safety or tranquillity of Travoncore or any part thereof."

Now, Sir, the only two items as I said out of the large amount of Rs. 5 lakhs spent in 1109 which can be justified under the section are Rs. 1,764 for the construction of a temporary shed in the General Hospital and furnishing and staff in connection with the out-break of typhoid epidemic and Rs. 1,500 spent in connection with plague prevention measures. All the other items of expenditure should have come before the legislature for sanction.

Now I would refer to some items in the list to illustrate my point. Take, for instance, the following items :—

(1) Rs. 6,000 for the purchase of two cow giraffes for the Zoo.

(2) Rs. 26,720—for providing additional accommodation for the major carnivora in the Zoo and for constructing an aviary.

(3) Rs. 29,000 for the conversion of the Mascot Bungalow into a a hotel.

(4) Rs. 10,000 for treating with shelmac the portion of the main road between the School of Arts and the Post Office.

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[Mr. Changanachery K. Parameswaran Pillai.]

Now, Sir, can we by any stretch of imagination consider these items of expenditure as justified by any emergency were the Government afraid that the place and trianquillity of the country would be endangered if these items of expenditure were not met immediately or if they waited for the vote of the Assembly by means of a supplementary grant? No, Sir this is a clear abuse of the power vested in Government by Section 32 of the Regulation. Take again the expenditure of Rs. 4,500 after the last meeting of the Assembly for the Trade Agent's Office, rent for Sales Depot, etc. The trade agent's office was opened long before last budget and provision should have been made in the budget for this expenditure.. In any case, it should have come before us at least as a supplementary demand. If the meetings of the Assembly were held at such long intervals as not to enable Government to bring up supplementary demands in time, it is their own fault. More meetings of the Assembly should have been and ought to have been called if necessary. The Government ought not invoke the power vested in them under Section 32 unnecessarily and spend money not justified under that Section without the sanction of the Assembly again.

I may be permitted to refer to one resolution to illustrate the respect given by Government to resolutions of the Assembly. One important adjournment motion passed related to the import duties on eggs, vegetable oil, etc., imposed by the Ceylon Government on imports from India and Travancore. What action did Government take on it? You will find, Sir, that the Ceylon Government is the greatest obstacle in the way of increasing the import duty of copra. They are trying in all manner of ways to prevent this duty being increased by the India Government. Now Ceylon is dumping copra in India and the price of our cocoanuts is much reduced, but on eggs and vegetable oils exported by us they have imposed a heavy duty. In the face of all these and even after an adjournment motion was carried in this House, our Government have taken no action whatever on this. Though I have many more points to refer to, as my time is up, I resume my seat.

MR. T. K VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Sir, many members have praised the Financial Secretary and his speech on its excellent form. I have also heard praises about the new policy of industrial regeneration inaugurated by Government.

Sir, the Government deserves our congratulation; for it has been made clear that agriculture alone is not enough to keep the peoples' body and soul together. The law of diminishing returns has begun to operate and at the same time the population is increasing by leaps and bounds. Therefore, Sir, the industrial regeneration of our country is its salvation. But I am not one of those who believe that industrial regeneration is possible without the necessary development of agriculture. Science may do what it will, but it is impossible to make raw materials either from the atmospheric nitrogen or from lightning

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electricity; and even if the intelligence and enterprise of all the eminent scientists of the world are brought into play, it is impossible to create one particle of matter.

Therefore, Sir, although the Financial Secretary's industrial schemes-and some of them are excellent ones-are praise-worthy, I must say this. This policy of Government has made them rather indifferent to the needs of agriculture.

Sir, a word about the present plight of the agriculturists. Sir, the majority of the agriculturists are in a most miserable situation. There are even cases of actual death by starvation: and a large number of them are now semi-starved. The pity of it is that they starve for no fault of theirs. Here is an enlightened Government presided over by a distinguished statesman and the condition of the people is most miserable. When thieves and murderers are well looked after, these poor people who try their level best to keep civilisation going on by the pursuit of their humble agriculture are left to their lot. If their land is sold for arrears of tax, they could not be bought back again. Remission of land tax is not a new thing in Travancore. During the time of His Highness the late Ayiliam Tirunal, there was remission of tax when there was a famine. There was also another instance of the remission of land tax during the time of the late enlightened Visakham Thirunal. The remission of tax is an ordinary thing in Travancore. There have been also special famine relief remissions. Money advances were also made to provide medical relief and for sanitation.

Now I find all are silent about the malaria question. I know, Sir, that malaria is still there. From a talk I had with the President of the Neyyattinkara Municipal Council, who is a friend of mine and a man whose words could be relied on, I learn that malaria is still keeping the people miserable. The most patent feature of their suffering is want of food for them. The people are under the grip of two demons, starvation and malaria. Sir, some more substantial help is urgently needed for them.

Sir, one word with regard to the co-ordination of industries. I, Sir, refuse to go to the happy valley in the distant future to which this Industrial Regeneration may lead. There have been various expert Committees set up by our Government which went into the economic aspect. The report of the Co-operative Enquiry Committee is an excellent one. There is the Banking Enquiry Committee Report also. That too is an excellent one. But nowhere in these reports is there mention of a scheme for the co-ordination of industries. And I may say also that no compartmental nation-building is possible hereafter. There is the Economic Development Board here. But they have not charted out any well-defined programme for the regeneration of our industries. The Departments of Agriculture, Co-operation and Industries should be combined. I may say in this connection that the Agricultural Department should direct their attention and see that tobacco is cultivated in our State.

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[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

Sir, one word I should say about standardisation. I am firmly of the belief that one single officer, whether he be an Assistant Secretary or a Secretary, will not be able to deal effectively with the problem of standardisation, for there is the need of experience in the open field which these officers lack. They cannot keep issues clear. They are accustomed to look upon things from the high altitude of their departmental prestige. Sir, in the face of these facts, is there any justification to entrust a second grade officer to deal with a question of this magnitude and importance? Sir, I am for reducing the number of offices in the State. I am not for the reduction of the officers' pay as it is. This question of cutting the salaries is not so important when we consider that we could reduce the number of offices to the advantage of the States finances. Therefore, Sir, I want the whole question to be examined by a competent body of men.

With regard to town-planning, I must say as a citizen of Trivandrum that I am one with the idea of improving and beautifying the City of His Highness the Maha Raja. Sir, in the scheme of town-planning, Government should have also in view that the poor peasantry is not adversely affected. Sir, they are His Highness the Maha Raja's people and their interests should be safeguarded. But I admit that the interest of an individual should be sacrificed for the interest of the State. But I also warn the Government by impressing upon them that.

Princes and Lords may flourish or may fade
A breath can make them as a breath has made.
But a bold peasantry, a country's pride
When once destroyed can never be supplied.

Sir, here is rural country and we are happy to see beautiful places when everybody is loyal to His Highness the Maha Raja's Government. But I say this, Sir, that while acquiring lands the Government should provide these people house-sites in an improved state.

I have got one or two points more to submit. Sir, I must enter my protest in selecting Nagercoil as a sanatorium for patients suffering from tuberculosis. No doubt Nagercoil is a health resort. I am quite against contaminating its salubrious atmosphere with the germs of the fell disease. Sir, the psychology of disease is more hypochondriac. Sir, it is a sacred duty of Government to shift the site of the proposed sanatorium to some other place further south.

With regard to the question of Public Health, I want to refer to the pitiable condition of the inhabitants of Shertala who have fallen a victim to filariasis. Sir, Shertala is a long way off and that should not leave it uncared for. Sir, now there is the Director of Public Health and his Assistant What is the use of having a highly paid officer? What is the meaning of restricting his energy and intelligence to one taluk?

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The State must be organised and proper work should be made possible by an efficient Health Officer. So also with Ayurveda. It is a very cheap thing. The people believe in Ayurveda and the Government having obliged the people with Ayurvedic institutions is estopped from saying anything against them. If it is the view of the Government that Ayurveda is not good, then they should abolish the depar ment. Otherwise they should make it efficient and give greater chances to it.

I want to make one or two observations with regard to the policy underlying the budget. The sinking fund has been diverted. Government are convinced that it is necessary to raise a loan; but the mere expression of a pious hope of raising a loan does not commend itself to me. Before anything more is taken from the reserve, provision will have to be made for raising the loan. Travancore is not a place where people are willing to invest money in Government loans, because there is no money with the people. The Tahsildars will have to go from place to place and force the people for payment of land tax; that is the position here. I am rather very well acquainted with the conditions of the people and I therefore take courage to say that, if you take the sinking fund, you must satisfy the people that the promise of raising a loan is not a mere promise but that steps have already been taken before the first rupee is taken from the reserve fund. I am giving this advice to the Government in a spirit of absolute attachment and the attachment is certainly more to the principles of finance. So I wish that point should be taken seriously by Government.

I do not want to comment on the statement made by some members that a deficit budget is an excellent thing. I do not think my friends ever meant that a deficit budget in itself, as an absolute thing, is a matter to be congratulated upon. A deficit budget may be defended, if good things are done by Government. But merely because a budget is a deficit budget, I am not prepared to congratulate anybody. As a natural rule, in a country like this where the sources of income are quite definite, I have no fascination for a deficit budget. I know that some of the members who spoke on it are students of economics and I understood them in the proper spirit. But there is no fascination in a deficit budget for me.

There have been a number of other statements made and at this time of the day I do not propose to take up more of the time of the House.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): In discussing the budget, it has been said, and very rightly said, that the Government has taken a very bold front in presenting a deficit budget. It is all the more right because it is not always that the Government takes facts as they are and the consequences of them as they will be. Sir, there is not a number of people who are always enamoured of a surplus budget; as my friend the Deputy President has said, when a deficit budget is presented, it amounts to a frankness and an openness. It also conveys

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an idea that things are being looked at from the proper point of view and that there is something which is not only a promise but amounts to an undertaking which will be completed under the scheme of the deficit budget. I do not propose to thresh the details of the budget because that has been sufficiently done in this House. May I be permitted to suggest one single fact that I suppose has not been sufficiently emphasised in this House. That is the question of industrial regeneration.

Sir, it has been well laid down in the Financial Secretary's speech that the policy of the Government hitherto has been to draw upon the annual resources and to spend the annual resources properly, like a good house-wife respecting the proper economics of domestic science. At the same time it has been urged upon the Government from many quarters that the safety of the State depends more upon the industrialisation of its activities and not upon an indefinite progress of agriculture. Sir, as a humble student of economics, I have learnt that countries and nations have been progressing from stage to stage and that the agricultural acme is not the last stage of a nation's progress. It is only one of the earlier stages, and so far as agriculture is kept within hand and is sufficient for the amelioration of the conditions of society then existing, or for the safeguarding of domestic interest so far as the necessities of the nation are concerned, then it is well and good. But the nation must necessarily progress to an industrial stage and the countries that are in the forefront of civilisation may be generally said to be industrial countries. If that is the view which responsible people are prepared to take, and that is the correct view, my suggestion comes into force. Industrialisation must be comprised not of a one-year plan. There must be a general scheme of industrialisation as a whole, not extending only for one period, but as we now see in some of the civilised countries a concept of what is to be achieved is an objective in mind and to carry out the same there should be a definite programme for a definite number of years. To make it more plain, I may say that it is not something like sporadic outbursts of enthusiasm in favour of industries of one kind or another, but there must be a systematic programme for the purpose of achieving what we consider to be an objective, not in pieces but as a whole running in the course of a few years. Sir, that that is a necessity, that planned undertakings and a definite programme of industrialisation are a necessity, may be shown to be the result of the actual existing circumstances. Taking the present state of things as they are, I think everybody will appreciate the stress of the times we are living through. There is a great financial depression running over the whole surface of the economic world, not a depression of the financiers only or of the States but of all classes and conditions of people, and, as a result of it, there is something which may be expressed to be an economic chaos. But these area, according to me, in themselves, very serious factors. Yet so far as theequilibriums

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are maintained, either in the State or elsewhere, these things according to me are not very serious, at all if it shakes only the equilibrium of certain individuals. When such equilibrium of a nation is shaken owing to financial or other causes, it is a very serious affair to grapple with but it must nevertheless be grappled with. Sir, therefore I lead on to that point in which I have to say that the Government must consider it a duty, in view of those conditions, to see that the people are occupied, that they are kept occupied and not diverted from the pursuit of peaceful and loyal activities to which they must naturally be harnessed. It is quite necessary that lawful pursuits and engagements must be pointed out to them and they should not be allowed to drift as if without an aim on account of the economic equilibrium being shaken in their minds. Further, the Government have also to see that activities are properly diverted to channels which are least harmful to the State as a whole and that the sympathies of labouring and the working classes, the sympathies of those that are occupied in such pursuits, are enlisted on the side of Government with more or less success. Sir, this can be ascertained only by proofs of sustained help and amelioration that can be rendered by Government to the nation. Therefore it is, I say, that this is an oppportunity for Government as the biggest capitalist that the people are aware of, to take advantage of the cheapness of labour that is available. The present conditions are so far favourable that for any programme of industrialisation the cheapness of labour can be very easily availed of by Government and it behoves the Government to institute public works of utility, not, I would say, from a commercial point of view but from the point of view of a nation-building activity. Sir, as I submit, a nation is not always rich because of the money it can command. I have never known that because of more money that a nation can command it has grown richer. Even present-day opinion shows that a nation which has amassed vast quantities of gold may still be feeling the pinch of depression and cannot consider itself to be thriving; at least internally, though it might show itself to be well off in its external relations. But what is necessary for a nation's upliftment is the increase of production of useful commodities and a nation does not use money as such, but only commodities. In proportion to the increase of commodities, not only agricultural but otherwise, a nation grows richer, and richer, and agricultural commodities are only the primary products of society. Therefore it is that I submit that, unless there is an industrialisation of the products that we can avail of, along with perhaps an increase in the productive capacity of the agriculturists, we cannot be sure of our ground as a rich nation or as a rich State. Why not we therefore enter upon a programme of industrialisation? My friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai has expressed a sentiment, which I have long cherished, that it is the duty of Government at this juncture not to draw upon the reserves, not to convert the gilt-edged securities, but to take courage in their hands and to float loans. No Government launching itself on a programme of industrialisation and taking loans

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for that purpose becomes a bankrupt for any time. But probably the sorry spectacle of some of our industries in the past, the success which scarcely attended many of them, might be a good warning in its way and may take the courage out of the Government's mind. But I say that it is all due to the fact that in the matter of industrialisation Government has been half-hearted, never having lent its strong hand in support of any large industry. Without being a prophet, I may say a few words about the rubber industry that is now started. The rubber industry is proposed to be started on three lakhs of rupees, on the face of this wide world, when as near as Bombay with a capital of Rs. 50 lakhs more competent concerns are being opened, I may prophesy that, like the sugar industry of Travancore, in the next few years it may be one two or three years we might hear nothing about it mentioned in the Financial Secretary's speech. I can almost to a certainty gauge the possibilities of an industrial concern like the rubber factory here and say that alongside of the world factories that command the commerce in rubber, this factory on its present basis is doomed to failure and is going to die a natural death, perhaps unhonoured and unsung.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether the factory is not coming into existence for the purpose of manufacturing toys?

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): I am talking not of the products of the factory but of the factory itself, which, if it produces any toys, may be taken to be a toy itself.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know what expert knowledge the member has to enable him to make such a statement?

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): The ordinary knowledge of a non-expert who views with open eyes the things around him.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISANA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Has he seen anything going on round about the rubber factory?

MR. K C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): No, I have not been lurking about the rubber factory.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know the reason why the member begins to curse the industry even before it is started?

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): I am only looking at it from a third party point of view, from the point of view of a man looking at the whole situation as if he were an outsider and with perfect detachment.

PRESIDENT: The member will be glad, I think, if he turns out to be a false prophet.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Yes.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): What will be the approximate cost of the land in Bombay for the setting up of the factory?

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): It may vary in different localities, but, as I understand, Rs. 50 lakhs is to be invested upon the factory in Bombay and not upon the land. Well, there are other enterprises like the porcelain industry and the paper industry. As it was observed in this House, I cannot very well understand why, with all the power available to us from the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric scheme, this Government cannot of its own accord start a paper factory. Why that should go into the hands of foreign companies and why all raw products should be utilised by them to their own benefit is a matter which I cannot understand.

PRESIDENT: I believe that would not be a failure.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Of course so far as other people are managing it, it would not be a failure but so far as we take it up, I am prepared to suppose that it may be a failure, if Government withholds the generous support that such concerns deserve.

Between industrialisation and other things the Government is also partly engrossed on what may be called communalisation of interests. Much has been said in discussing the Government communique yesterday in this House as to the way in whch communalisations have been carried on. I have only to submit one fact about it that these are matters which can for the present be either shelved or taken up with courage and it is my view that these communal questions are not being grappled with by Government either with courage or with logic.

PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2 o'clock.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 1-5 P.M., and re-assembled at 2 P. M., with the Deputy President in the chair.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): There are very many members yet to speak, and the time available is not much. I therefore beg to suggest that the time-limit of speech for a member may be limited to five or seven minutes so that more of us can get the opportunity to speak.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I shall consider the question after Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai finishes his speech.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Generally speaking, Sir, the Financial Secretaries of this State have had the reputation as clever balancers of the State Budget. This year, however, the Financial Secretary has thrown up the cards in visible despair after a desperate struggle to balance the budget. Certainly, that does not mean any discredit to my friend the present Financial Secretary, since unbalanced budgets are the order of the day. It has been pointed out by a learned writer that there are only three States now which have been

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able to balance their budgets, namely, British India, Palestine and the Isle of Man. So, our friend the Financial Secretary is in very good company. I said, Sir, that he made a desparate struggle to balance the budget. I may refer to a few instances in support of my assertion.

One is the encroachment upon the Devaswom Fund. Sir, the Devaswoms were separated from the Land Revenue Department by a Royal Proclamation in the year 1097 and the same was further elucidated by a Government Communique of even date. In that Proclamation, as was repeated in the Press Communique, there is a statement that not less than 40 per cent. of the *ayacut* and *sanchayam* land revenue will be devoted to the upkeep and maintenance of the Devaswoms; and 40 per cent. of such land revenue was interpreted, in the Press Communique as meaning Rs. 16 lakhs. And, for many years in succession, the Devaswom Fund had an allotment of Rs. 16 lakhs from the State Budget. During the days of Dewan Mr. T. Austin, began a process of nibbling at the Devaswom Fund; he reduced it to Rs. 14 lakhs. The next year also it continued at about the same figure. But this year we have the spectacle of its reduction to Rs. 12 lakhs odd. Sir, I protest against this erosion and encroachment upon the Devaswom Fund. Sir, I am interested in seeing that the solemnity of pledges given by the Sovereigns of Travancore should be maintained, and the exigencies of financial stringency should not be allowed to nullify such pledges. It was argued on a previous occasion in this House that the expression 40 per cent. may be taken to be a variable, like "x" in Algebra and may undergo convenient modification from time to time. Sir, I submit there is a principle of interpretation in regard to statutes and enactments. That principle is that the interpretation put upon a particular enactment simultaneously or soon after it was passed is the best and the most forcible interpretataion of it. The Latin Maxim is "*conte mporanea expositio est optima et fortissima in lege.*" I wonder whether the advisers of Government and the Government themselves are aware of such a principle of interpretation when they say that they will not pay any heed to what has been said along with the enactment of the Royal Proclamation on the subject. As my friend Mr. Paramesvara Aiyar suggested, a definite statement, as to what the Government mean by the Proclamation and the Press Communique, is quite necessary. Sir, if by themselves they find it difficult to solve the question, a reference may be made to Dr. Nokes who seems to have become a sort of refered in cases when such difficulties arise for the Government.

Passing on to another aspct of the Budget, we see that the Financial Secretary has spared no pains to make the receipt columns of the budget look as big and loom as large as possible. For example, he has put the land revenue figures at Rs. 37 lakhs. He has considerable hopes in the matter of Court Fees, Stamps, etc. All these are unfounded. Even the 12½ per cent. remission allowed last year has not been taken into consideration. A motion is kept ready to under-rate the Rs. 37 lakhs. Sir, in the matter of making a budget, what I have

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understood from writers on Public Finance is that, in the case of well-ordered modern States, they begin by setting down the requirements of the State as a progressive State. The expenditure is first of all calculated, and then the means of meeting such expenditure, say by taxation, loans, etc., is devised, so that the expenditure may be off-set against such receipts. In the case of well-ordered States of the present day, the prime consideration is the well-being, physical, mental and economical, of the people of the State, so much so in Western countries we hear a good deal about housing, unemployment and other problems. Now let us see, how far the physical well-being of the people of Travancore has been taken into account by the framer of our Budget.

One cry systematically raised by this House is in regard to the need for ordinary drinking water in some parts of the State. A motion was carried unanimously by this House that, in the coastal regions and the califerous tracts of the State, provision must be made for the supply of good drinking water. That motion remains a dead letter to this day. No doubt, in the case of two or three municipal centres like Shencotta, Nagercoil and Alleppey, Government have benignantly taken up the question of water supply. That is something. But what about the rest of the State? What is the idea of Government with respect to the coastal regions? That aspect is ignored.

Another cry that we have been raising with respect to the well-being of the people of Travancore is the need for medical aid and sanitary arrangements. The need for starting hospitals and dispensaries in various centres has been pressed upon the attention of Government with no equivocal voice. We have now with us a very young and energetic Darbar Physician who is prepared to undertake any amount of work, provided he is given the necessary funds. But Government do not seem to pay any heed to our cries. Medical aid is not forthcoming.

The situation is the same with respect to the Public Health Department also. Dr. Gopala Pillai, another energetic gentleman, has been put in charge of the Public Health Department. He was telling us the other day, Sir, that about 20 or 25 malarial tracts exist in this State with possibilities of constant eruptions, like volcanoes, in the shape of malarial outbreaks. We have seen how furious such outbreaks are in the case of Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad, migrations from where may be seen even today by the sides of the public roads in Trivandrum. We see people dying like rats on the road-side. (Mr. S. J. Nair: *Hear, hear*). In spite of such demonstrations, what is it that the Public Health Department is doing? When questioned, they say, 'We are repeatedly communicating with Government.' But the Government is not responsive enough. Similarly it is a long-standing complaint with the people of Shertala that about 90 per cent. of them are subject to what is known as filariasis. Still nothing like any serious step has been taken to eradicate this malady from that

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[Mr. P. C. Narayana Pillai.]

centre. When every civilised centre in the world is taking all possible steps in the interests of the public health of the State, in Travancore, a State which puts forward a claim to be considered as a model State, such primary necessities are being neglected. (Mr. S. Edavanatt Padmanabha Menon: *Hear, hear.*)

Sir, I was referring to the question of balancing the Budget, and said that the Indian Budget, as also the Budgets of Palestine and Isle of Man are balanced budgets. But how? It is by pitching the level of taxation at great heights. That is how they have balanced their budgets. In Travancore also, attempt is now being made to maintain the level of taxation at its old level irrespective of the question whether the prices of articles have not fallen, whether trade is not dull or whether the agriculturists have not been brought to their knees. Irrespective of all these considerations, merely to keep up the old items of expenditure at their old level, attempt is being made to maintain taxation also at the old level. That, I beg to submit, is fundamentally wrong. Learned writers on Public Finance say that, in a crisis like the present economic depression, the attempt on the part of financiers in charge of Government revenue ought to be to see that the loss sustained by the State must be made to fall equally on all its people. Everyone must be called upon to make sacrifices equally. In Travancore, the agriculturists, the tradesmen, the wage earners—except those under Government—all these people have been hit very hard by the present depression. There is only one section of the people not affected by all the turmoil that is now going on around us; and that is the group of Government servants. Sir, why should they not make some sacrifice, when the whole State is going through an ordeal of this kind? to equalise the incidence of suffering and sacrifice, the Government should not hesitate. But I am quite sure the Travancore Government would not heed that. I do not know if the Pandits of bureaucracy would allow Government even to consider such questions. They smile at it. It is a very strange spectacle. Equal sacrifice is an equitable principle in a crisis like this.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. Sambasiva Aiyar threw out a suggestion that some modification may be made in the rule as to time-limit. As the House is aware, fifteen minutes is the time prescribed for a speech. I find that there is a very large number of members desirous of speaking. It is difficult to decide how much time a member may have when it is remembered that other members who had already spoken have had 15 minutes. It is rather unfortunate that some members should not have so much time. Mr. Sambasiva Aiyar's suggestion is worthy of consideration I leave it to the House to express its assent whether some reduction in the time may not be made. If the House has got the good sense—I presume it has it may leave to the Chair to decide the time-limit. I am prepared to shoulder the responsibility, because I am sure this House will always be fair in the interpretation of the conduct of the Chair.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I would rather leave it to the Chair.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Sir, I congratulate the Government on the admirable and brilliant speech delivered by the Financial Secretary. This year's budget speech, compared to those of the previous years, has been to a very large extent exhilarating. It has been capable of lulling opposition to inanity. It is not possible to say what exactly it is that is contained in the speech that has been able to create this sort of atmosphere. When I was reading through the speech, I found that the whole key-stone of the future policy of Government has been laid down at page 3 paragraph I, which every right-thinking citizen would admit, is the soundest financial policy that could be frankly laid down by the Government. It reads as follows:—

> "It is an admitted canon of financial policy that the amounts taken from the tax-payer and held in reserve should be given back to him in the shape of social amenities or nation-building activities and are not utilised wholly for capital undertakings, whether remunerative or otherwise. As it is, however, necessary to keep pace with the times, the State has to enlarge its activities also by promoting capital or commercial undertakings likely to benefit or improve the condition of the peopl"

For this purpose Government have laid down certain proposals. As far as the proposals go, I have nothing to say against the policy of Government. These proposals, read along with the policy that has been laid down, clearly establish the wide sympathy and sincerity Government have in their attempt for ameliorating the condition of the people of the State.

Passing on to the various items in the budget, we find that, when the amenities of the Trivandrum Town have been taken pretty care of, Government have not forgotten the needs of the people in other parts of the State. If a Rubber Factory is to be established in Trivandrum, a porcelain factory is to be established at Quilon. If a water supply scheme has been prepared for Trivandrum, there is one proposed for Nagercoil, Alleppey and Shencotta.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Does the member know that the Nagercoil Municipality is required to contribute for the Water Supply Scheme?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Everybody must be ready to contribute. Government have not godly powers to bring down money from heaven. If the Nagercoil people have to contribute for the Nagercoil Water Supply scheme, those living in Trivandrum have also to contribute for the Trivandrum scheme.

There is provision in the Budget for three important places. As pointed out by several member of this House, one fact has not been taken notice of by Government: that is, the supply of drinking water to people in the coastal regions. By properly working up the policy that has been now proposed, Government will ere long be able to attend to the needs of these people. By linking up the Trivandrum Water Supply with the Alleppey Water Supply along the coastal region, Government will be able to supply the needs of the coastal regions.

I pass on to another item. Opinion appears to be divided about the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner. There is one thing that is highly gratifying. Government, by the issue of this G.O.,

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[Mr. Puthupally S. Krishna Pillai.]

appears to have satisfied the needs of those who have been clamouring for it. No doubt they do not come forward and readily accept it. There are some people who go about sniffing about it. The community that is vitally affected by this G. O. has coolly and calmly submitted to the orders issued by Government. In regard to Dr. G. D. Nokes, we all protested against his appointment on principle. But it would appear that, as matters stand at present, he is the only acceptable individual. I am sure that, if proper rules are laid down, his sense of justice is so great and straight that he will never wander from the four corners of the rules laid down.

Another question of vital importance to all persons in the State is the question of representation in the Legislatures. One section of the people go about declaring that they are being given all opportunities for informing the authorities of their position. Another section of people complains that either they are not invited or they do not get sufficient opportunities. My submission is that opportunities of representation are available for all. The only question is whether any community abuses that opportunity. If the Nair community does not get the better of the fight, it will be only because they do not put forward the views in the most appealing and emphatic terms. It is high time therefore that no community should lag behind in the matter of putting forth their claims.

Another question raised in the Financial Secretary's speech is the question of Agriculture and Fisheries. With regard to the Fisheries, I wish to say that Government should not be halting in the reforms they are going to effect. Sufficient attention has been bestowed on the industrial regeneration of the country. The Fisheries Department of the State is a department which deserves better encouragement. If Government thought of separating the Fisheries Department from the Agricultural Department, that ought to be done. They ought not to be half-hearted. What was separation before has become reorganisation now. What was complete control has become subordination to existing conditions. That sort of half-hearted policy is opposed to correct principles that we all expect at the hands of Government.

In regard to public health, the policy of Government appears to require radical changes. The people of Shertala do stand in need of better help. It is not clear why Government have not brought forward any proposal for Shertala. The statement that their proposal has been vetoed by the Finance Committee is not the whole truth.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Sir, the announcement of a new fiscal policy by the Financial Secretary is one which will be welcomed by all members, and I congratulate him on that. I congratulate him for enunciating for a policy of borrowing for capital expenditure. The necessity for borrowing for capital expenditure is quite obvious, whether the works undertaken be commercial or non-commercial in character. It is only right that the burden of paying for works that would last an indefinitely long period is spread over a long series of years. It is not advisable to finance these from revenue

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charged to expenditure. In this view, the provision for the Pallivasal scheme, the rubber factory, the clay and porcelain factory and other capital works, from borrowed funds, is most opportune, especially because the present is the best time for obtaining cheap money in the market.

The idea of separating the Accounts from the Finance Department is a wise step in the right direction. I would also call attention to the necessity of separating the Customs from Excise. This question was raised in this House on more than one occasion. We are all familiar with the memorandum on the subject prepared by Mr. K. C. Karunakaran and circulated to all the members. Government have themselves accepted this principle as a desirable reform when it was recommended by the Economic Development Board. I would submit that this question should also be tackled by Government at the earliest possible opportunity.

Turning to the question of expenditure charged to revenue, I would point out that the deficit of Rs. 6 and odd lakhs is due entirely to the Military works (3 lakhs), construction of a Council Chamber (2 lakhs), Town Planning Scheme (1½ lakhs), leaving aside Murajapam which has to be performed whether we wish it or not. It is also not within our purview. It is these three items that go to make up the deficit. The question to be considered is whether we get sufficient value of money. Do we get sufficient return for the money that we spend? Cannot Town Planning, the construction of Council Chamber and Military works wait? My submission is that expenditure on these works is not justified at present.

If a deficit budget was for purposes of the rural development, I can understand that. This brings me to the subject of rural needs of the country. We know that the Government of India in their last budget set apart one crore of rupees for this item, *viz*, the Rural Development in India. I submit that a similar fund be set apart for the purpose of rural development in Travancore. We have been long crying for village roads, dispensaries, Primary Schools, encouragement of Ayurvedic system of treatment, minor irrigation works, extending the operations of the Land Mortgage Bank, distribution of loans for the purchase of live-stock and manure, and more than all for Land Revenue remissions, etc. If a deficit budget could have been incurred for any of these purposes, for the rural development programme, for helping the agriculturists, that would have been justifiable. I would warn the Government that there is great unrest in the country due to the distress of the agriculturist. If rural needs are properly satisfied or a rural compaign to that end is started in right earnest, there will be peace in the land. If it is not done, I am sure there will be still more unrest in the country.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): The Budget that has been presented before this House by the learned Financial Secretary

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[Srimati T. Narayani Amma.]

is peculiar in several respects. In the first place, it is a Budget in which the Government have to make provision for several special items such as the Murajapam ceremony, the Military works and the construction of a Council Chamber. In addition to these items, the Government have to incur expenditure on several capital schemes also, such as the Water Supply and Drainage, the Town Planning Scheme, the opening of the Rubber Factory and the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project. In regard to expenditure charged to revenue also, funds had to be provided for several important items of activities. It must therefore have been a very difficult task for the Financial Secretary to prepare this Budget and I have no hesitation in saying that he deserves to be congratulated on the way in which he has performed the task.

It is gratifying to find that, in the preparation of the Budget, the Financial Secretary has adopted a wholesome policy, though in regard to some matters one cannot see eye to eye with him. One of the admitted canons of financial policy, to quote the Financial Secretary, is that "the amount taken from the tax payer and held in reserve should be given back to him in the shape of social amenities or nation-building activities"; and this seems to have been kept in view by the Government. I am glad also to find that the Government realised the fact that, to keep pace with the times, the State has to enlarge its activities by promoting capital and commercial undertakings. And I visualise a new era of further social amenities and more capital undertakings resulting in the greater prosperity of the people and the further improvement of the financial position of the State. The year 1111 will therefore be noteworthy in the annals of the State as making a new orientation in the Government's financial policy. The very fact that the Budget grant for next year for works of public utility would amount to 96 lakhs of rupees makes the year memorable.

While these are some of the gratifying features of the Budget, I am sorry to have to point out that there are some other matters on which sufficient attention does not seem to have been bestowed. It is true that the usual normal expansion of the Government departments has been provided for, and schemes have been taken up in such important directions as the organisation of a Financial Secretariat, the starting of new industries and the institution of a central authority for recruitment to public services. Referring to the last named scheme, the Financial Secretary says that, "with the new facilities provided for, the Public Services Commissioner will find it possible and easy to so adjust recruitment to public services as to give, as far as possible, equal chances to men with equal qualifications". I do not know whether the use of the word *men* in this statement without any reference to the question of equal chances to *women* with equal qualifications, is deliberate; what I wish to point out is that it is likely to create considerable disquiet among a large section of the educated women who already feel that the claims of women, as such, have been ignored in the recent G. O. on recruitment to public services. This is not the occasion to deal with this matter at length, and I wish only to say,

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that I for one am inclined to think that the Financial Secretary might have used the word "men" because according to law "men" may be said to include "woman" also.

Mr. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): I confess I am old-fashioned enough to believe in the old policy pursued by the Financial Secretaries of the State and which is not going to be accepted by the present Financial Secretary. The old policy was extremely simple and that was, "cut your coat according to your cloth." The simple fact is this; if we have no cloth, don't go in for a coat. I would better illustrate that position from the observations of one of our eminent Dewans, the late Mr. Nanu Pillai. This is what he wrote to the Resident in connection with the Kodayar Project.

"On a rough calculation, it is found that"

He wanted to take it through Edanad only, which had nothing to do with Nanjinad.

"———the revenue derivable from improved cultivation and from waste land coming into village will return an interest of 5 per cent. on the capital outlay..."

He guaranteed 5 per cent., whereas, as the financial Secretary complains we get a poor return because of the Engineering Department which took it into their head to adopt a plan different from the one enunciated by Dewan Nanu Pillai or, to put it shortly, the Engineering Department dammed Kodayar and dammed Nanjinad as well. (*Laughter.*) Then Dewan Nanoo Pillai continued thus. "But even if the direct returns to the State were less (the Financial Secretary is now sorry for it) " we still provide means for the creation of wealth to the ryot and for adding to the food supply of the country, a provision which, always a paramount duty of the State, becomes specially so, when it is considered that the money to be employed on the works, is the surplus of taxes paid by the people over and above the ordinary maintenance of the administration. This surplus fructifies a great deal more when returned to the hands of the ryot than when invested in Government securities."

Now also the Financial Secretary in his speech is complaining that these surpluses were not invested in Government securities. As a matter of fact, we have obtained a name as a model State because we had surpluses in hand. Today, Sir, what is the state of our finance? If we go through the financial history of Travancore, we find that the revenue of the State in 1060 was Rs. 66 lakhs, in 1080 one crore and 20 lakhs. Then the Madras Government observed that it was a very commendable thing that the Government of Travancore were prosperous without at the same time increasing the burdens of the people. But within 25 years, between the years 1080 to 1104, the revenues jumped upto 2 1/2 crores of rupees. So, within 50 years, our revenue has more than trebled while during these 50 years, the prices of agricultural products have fallen by 40 or 60 per cent. To put it shortly, if one may employ such a simile the Financial Secretary is holding a candle which is burning at both ends.

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[Mr. P. Chidambaram Piliai.]

Certainly, Sir, I am very much apprehensive about this State going out and borrowing money. For one thing, let me tell the Government not to go outside the State for borrowing the amount. Let them stick to Travancore. The moment the Government go out to borrow outside as one who is in touch with commercial business, I may at once say that there may be very many inconvenient questions to be answered. After questioning about the power to borrow they may want to know for what purpose the State is going to spend this money and what is the security that we are going to offer. Added to this, there are the inconveniences brought about by our banks whch have also borrowed largely from outside. I may tell the Financial Secretary that he will be more or less in the position of a Hindu widow. The Financial Secretary has got the power to borrow only in cases of urgent necessity and he will have to justify the necessity for borrowing the amount first. Secondly, he will have to explain the utility of the projects upon which that money is to be spent and he will have to convince an outsider. Thirdly, he has to show a very good security upon which the money could be raised and the borrowing will be and has to be a first charge on the revenues of the State. These are frightening things to be taken into account. There is also the equally deplorable condition, both economic and financial, of the State. So, I would suggest that the State need not think of borrowing at all at the present moment because, people who are acquainted with borrowings from outside are very much afraid of the state of banks in Travancore at the moment. I say this from my personal experience. Therefore, let us follow the old policy advocated by the late Dewan Nanu Pillai. Let us be always in contact with our people first and take whatever service we get from them.

Then there is another difficult question that he has to be solved and that is with reference to surpluses Of course, people conversant with banking business know that that is a difficult broblem. There is no good in keeping it in the accounts. The best thing will be to have it in species gold or silver even let us hoard up our gold just now, instead of sending it out of the country.

In this connection there is one small matter that I have to mention. There was one Chettiyar, in South Travancore who was reported to be a very wealthy man. The policy pursued by him was to put his savings underneath the granary. It so happened that on a particular occasion a saving of Rs. 5,000 was kept under 200 *kottas* of paddy heaped in a granary. As ill-luck would have it, the Maravas came from outside and demanded from the man the money. He handed over the key of the granary and said that the money was all kept underneath the paddy stored in the granary. The robbers who had come there had to dig out for a sufficiently long time and could not get to the end of it till day-break. Therefore they had to go away without getting any loot at all. The moral of the story is that we should spend all our resources upon our agriculture and industry and that way prevent robbers from outside plundering us of our hard-earned cash.

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MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Sir, let me congratulate the Financial Secretary for his new budget. The budget proposals for the year 1111 are a turning point in our financial policy. Till now the Government were very careful to balance their budgets and present only surplus budgets. Though the finances of the State were always sound and large reserves were built up for emergency cases, very few capital works were undertaken, except the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme and the opening of the Neriamangalam bridge. The resources of the land were left undeveloped and the wealth of the State never increased thereby.

But with the present budget, the Government are initiating a welcome change. The proposal to develop nation building activities and commercial undertakings is commendable. But these schemes should be introduced after very careful scrutiny. Otherwise they may fail like the tanuery works, the Punalore Paper Mill and the Thuckala Sugar Factory.

Let me say a few words on the Standardisation Scheme. This House has urged very often for retrenchment and cut in salaries, but the standardisation of salaries in the present form was never sought for. It has destroyed the prestige of our Government servants and caused much discontent. This scheme, if put into operation, is sure to lead low paid officers into gross corruption. This House demanded a proportionate cut in the pay of highly paid officials alone. It would be quite unfair and unjust to effect a cut in the pay of officers who are in the lower ranks. In this connection, I would like to make a suggestion to the Government, *viz* :—

(1) to reduce 5 per cent in the case of pay from Rs. 51 to 100 both inclusive and subject to a minimum of Rs. 50

(2) to reduce 10 per cent in the cause of pay from Rs. 101 to 200, both inclusive and subject to a minimum of Rs. 95;

(3) to reduce 15 per cent in the case of pay from Rs. 201 to 300 both inclusive and subject to a minimum of Rs. 180;

(4) to reduce 20 per cent in the case of pay from Rs. 301 to 500 both inclusive and subject to a minimum of 255

(5) to reduce 25 per cent in the case of pay from Rs. 501 and above subject to a minimum of Rs. 400.

Sir, we do not want to effect a large saving. There should be a moral effect. We want to affect a cut only in the case of those officers who draw big salaries and not in the case of the poor officers who are starving with the small amount they get.

The next point I wish to deal with is with regard to the recruitment to public service. The Government in their recent proceedings have done something to alleviate the suffering of the poorly represented communities. But the G. O. is not without its faults. By competitive examinations alone, it is very difficult for a Musalman to enter the higher grade service. The proposal to raise the minimum qualification regarding recruitment to the lower grade also should not be adopted. Unless and until safeguards and reservations are made to protect the interests of members of the educationally backward communities in the rules that are to be formulated, the Muslim community will suffer very much.

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MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRIPAD (*Travancore Jenmies, South*): ധനകാര്യവർഗ്ഗം ഈ സഭയുടെ ആലോചനക്കായി സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അടുത്ത കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറിനെപ്പറ്റി പല അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ കർഷകരെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു പ്രത്യേകമായി യാതൊന്നും അതിൽ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചു കാണാത്തതു് വളരെ പരിതാപകരമാണു്. കൂടാതെ, ദേവസ്വം ഫണ്ടിലേക്കു കൊടുത്തിരുന്നതുക ഈ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ഫ്രീ ലക്ഷമായി കുറഞ്ഞതായിട്ടാണു് കാണുന്നതു്. ദേവസ്വം ഫണ്ടു് ആയക്കെട്ടു റവന്യൂവിന്റെ ൫ ശതമാനമായിരിക്കണമെന്നും എന്നാൽ അതു് ഫ്രീ ലക്ഷത്തിൽ കുറയരുതെന്നുമാണു് ദേവസ്വം വിളംബരം. അതിനു വിരുദ്ധമായി ഇപ്പോൾ ഫ്രീ ലക്ഷം രൂപായായി കുറച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ വ്യവസ്ഥയില്ലാത്ത നയം ദേവസ്വത്തോടു കാണിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ കഷ്ടമാണെന്നേ എനിക്കു പറവാനുള്ളു. ദേവസ്വം വകയായി ആദ്യം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന സ്വത്തുക്കൾ ഗവണ്മെന്റു് എടുത്തതിനു് ഒരു പ്രതിഫലമായിട്ടാണു് ഈ ഫ്രീ ലക്ഷം അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നാണു് എനിക്കറിയുവാൻ ഇടയായിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

അടുത്തതായി ആയുർവേദത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചും രണ്ടു വാക്കു പറയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. കാലദേശാവസ്ഥകൾ അനുസരിച്ചു് ആയുർവേദ ചികിത്സയാണു് നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ പ്രയോജനകരമായിത്തീർന്നിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഫാമിൽ ആണു് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ആദ്യമായി ഒരു ആയുർവ്വേദഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു് സ്ഥാപിച്ചതു്. അതിനെ ഫാമിൽ ഒന്നു പരിഷ്കരിച്ചു, ആയുർവേദ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ വൈദ്യസഹായം വളരെ തുച്ഛം ആണു്. അതിനാൽ താലൂക്കുതോറും മരുന്നുകടം ഉണ്ടാക്കി വിൽപന നടത്തുന്നതിനു് സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയും ആയുർവേദപാഠശാലകളിൽ കൂടുതൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവും ശസ്ത്രക്രിയ മുതലായവയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള പ്രായോഗിക പരിജ്ഞാനവും നൽകണമെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I propose to allow 35 minutes for the official side. They want only that. I wish those members who talk will speak as brief as possible. I find several members desiring to speak. I wish to allow the official members to begin speaking at 5 minutes to 3. Otherwise, they will not have enough time.

MR. J. M. JOSEPH (*Nominated*): Sir, while I congratulate the Financial Secretary on his name being associated with a budget which reveals a new financial policy on the part of the Government so agressive in its progressiveness, my grievance is that works of permanent

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nature have not been provided for to meet the needs of South Travancore. They have not been properly met and suitable allotments have not been made. I mean, the needs of the South Travancore people have not been properly attended to (*hear, hear*); especially in the matter of irrigation, I have only to say that the Kodayar Project, which was supposed to solve all the irrigational problems of South Travancore, was during the last few months of drought weighed in the balance and found wanting. Several representations were made to the Government as well as to the Chief Engineer about the Chittar scheme. I find in the budget a provision of Rs. 5,000 for the purpose. I simply request the Government to go ahead with the scheme without postponing it any further and do some help to the suffering agricultural population of South Travancore.

I want to say a word about the standardisation. The axe of standardisation has fallen most heavily upon the Education Department. I have only to say that, out of the 5 lakhs of rupees which is expected to be saved in all on account of standardisation, the Education Department alone is so unjustly called upon to contribute something like Rs. 2 lakhs. This Education Department with its large army of men and women is engaged in spreading education and enlightenment and in training the future citizens of the State and the future officers of the State including the Standardisation Officer himself. Yet it comes in for this kind of treatment. In the Education Department, a graduate entering on Rs. 40 has to wait for 25 years before he can hope to get his maximum, Rs. 100. This is the most unkindest cut of all. As a humble worker in the field of education, I emphatically protest against this proposed grossly unjust treatment that has been meted out to the Education Department.

With regard to the feeder schools I wish to bring a certain matter to the attention of the Government and the Director of Public Instruction, which is causing so much hardship. The rule that only those one and two class schools which feed complete primary schools under the same management will be allowed to run has adversely affected the education of the depressed class people who are living in the villages of South Travancore. I bring that matter to the notice of the Director. Unless this rule is changed, or at least the depressed class villages be exempted from the operation of this rule, the poor depressed class people will have no education. What we have given by the right hand to these people is taken away by the left.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): Sir, as the time before me is too short, I do not wish to traverse the ground already covered by the previous speakers. For all the beneficent measures that the Government are going to adopt, they deserve hearty congratulation and for the bold industrial policy put forward they should be all the more congratulated. Funds are allotted for military works, for town-planning scheme and for various other purposes. It is also

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[Mr. N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib.]

provided that protective works should be carried on in 1111 as the result of the floods of 1108. In regard to the military works, I understand, that there is an idea to acquire a large number of acres at Poojapurai for the Pangode lines. I have been reliably informed that there is also a proposal to acquire lands used for the purpose of public worship as well. My submission is that, in beautifying the town, when lands are acquired, places of public worship should not be disturbed in any manner. A similar proposal was made in the case of the Cantonment Mosque where some surveyors actually measured the front portion and this has caused a flutter in the minds of the people. In regard to this very important matter, I draw the attention of the Government to the necessity for refraining from such steps being taken.

One word with regard to standardisation. Standardisation has led to some anomalies. I will quote only one instance. In regard to the Judicial Department, the seniormost Munsiff gets a pay of Rs. 325 or Rs. 350, while a Second Judge sitting in appeal over him gets only Rs. 300. What an anomalous position it is! So also in regard to the pay of the Mahomedan Inspector of Schools, whose pay is reduced to Rs. 40, while the Arabic Munshi gets Rs. 45 per mensem.

MR. V. RAMAKRISANA PANIKKAR (*Kartikapalli II*): Finding that there is very little time before me, I do not propose to deal with the Budget elaborately. Though I have to make certain general observations about the budget, I shall confine myself to certain of the important matters which I have to place before this House. Government propose to execute certain new works next year and they say that they are not going to spend any general revenue for that purpose. They say that they are going to make advances out of the reserve, and propose to recoup them afterwards. It is alright. All these works relate to the town of Trivandrum. Rural parts ought to have been taken special notice of. In this connection, I have to refer to the Quilon—Ernakulam Railway. That is a work which has been promised by Government some time ago. Government seem to have promised that the work will be undertaken when the Cochin Harbour scheme would come into working order. Now, that the Harbour is finished and that, according to the Financial Secretary, the Harbour would bring in a revenue of about Rs. 12 lakhs every year, it is high time that the Government keep up their promise.

It can be seen from the budget that Government propose to separate the offices of the Financial Secretary and the Account Officer. It is good that such a scheme is proposed. But it cannot be gathered from the Budget what the pay of that officer will be. My opinion is that it should not be higher than that of the head of an office, say, between Rs. 600 and 700.

Then, I have a word to say with regard to the Ayurveda Department. Ayurvedic treatment has been found to be very popular in this country and Government also have conceded that the people are fond of such a kind of treatment. Government seem to lavish large

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amounts for allopathic treatment. Nearly Rs. 9 lakhs has been provided for that purpose in the next year's Budget, whereas only Rs. 60,000 odd is allotted for the Ayurvedic Department. Of course, this is a very poor allotment.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I wish to make a few observations on some of the criticisms that have been made on the floor of this House against the Budget in the course of the general discussion. It is only possible for me to touch on a few of the criticisms within the limited time at my disposal. One main criticism is that the Government, in framing their budget, have not taken into consideration the present economic depression. The Honourable Members seem to think that, because there is no provision in the budget for any relief to the agriculturists, nothing will be done if the necessity arises. Sir, I have only to remind the House—

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know from the member whether Government accept the view accepted by the Financial Secretary that economic depression is over?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I appeal to you, Sir, that, if I am interrupted, I will not be able to finish my speech within the allotted time?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am not prepared to allow the question because the Financial Secretary represents the Government in that matter and no question shall be put to the Chief Secretary with regard to that matter.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whom the Chief Secretary represents?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary, the member ought to know and knows, represent the Government of Travancore.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, when the budget for the current year was introduced towards the end of last year, there was no provision anywhere in the budget; nor was any promise held out in the budget speech that remissions would be granted during the current year. Yet what do you see now? In the course of the current year, Government have granted remissions of land tax to the extent of Rs. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. They have sanctioned the reduction of school fees resulting in a loss of income to the extent of about Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. They have also reduced the tariff values of cocoanut products, which has resulted in a loss of about Rs. $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. On the whole, these remissions and concessions granted by Government in the course of the current year have brought about a loss of not less than Rs. 10 lakhs. Yet when the budget for the current year was introduced at the end of last year, no promise was held out that these concessions and remissions would be granted. The Honourable Members may take it that, if the necessity arises for the grant of remission of land tax or other concessions next year, Government would rise equal to the occasion and do whatever is necessary. (Mr. M. Sivatanu Pillai: *hear, hear*)

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

Sir, the question may be asked, if that is so, how have Government budgetted for a revenue of nearly Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores for the next year. In land revenue alone, the Government have budgetted for three lakhs more than the current year's revenue. My only answer is that it is only an estimate, probably all the expectations may not be realised. But if there is a fall in land revenue, there may be an increase in other revenues. A little while ago, the Chief Engineer told me that, by the auction sale of toll gates, he has been able to secure one lakh of rupees more next year than this year. So it may be possible - —

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know from the Government whether revenue realised from tolls is included under the land revenue income?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, that question neeeds no answer as far as I can see. The member himself knows what the answer is. If you will allow me, I will explain the policy of Government.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I do not want to interrupt the speaker. I would request the honourable members to reserve, as far as possible, to the end, all questions, lest the argument becomes absolutely incoherent. Of course, it is only a request I am making.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): What I was saying was that even if Government do not realise the anticipated land revenue, they may be able to grant remissions because they may get increased revenues under other items. I only mention this to tell Mr. Elenkath that toll revenue is not included in land revenue. Sir, have not the Government done what is necessary and what is possible in the matter of giving relief to the agriculturists? Have they not appointed a Committee to go into the whole question of agricultutal indebtedness and is not that Committee now sitting and framing its recommendations which will be in the hands of Government in the course of a few weeks? Have the Government not issued a Proclamation to give relief and protection to the agricultural debtor? I cannot understand how honourable members seem to think that the Government are absolutely callous, absolutely indifferent to the interest of the agriculturists. I have stated what the Government have done, and they will continue to do whatever is necessary if the necessity arises. I do not say that the economic depression has lifted. I must admit that it still continues, but probably opinions may differ as to whether it continues with the same vigour as before? Judging from the conditions now prevailing, it looks as if it may become necessary to think of giving remissions next year. But we cannot say definitely now whether the necessity will arise. The monsoon has failed and yet it is too early to say that relief should be granted, whether remission should be granted throughout the State or only in particular areas and, if so, to what extent? These are all points which could be decided only

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next year after the crops have been harvested. I do admit that crops have failed partially in certain parts and probably wholly in some other parts and yet the exact extent of the failure and the amount of remissions to be granted could be known only next year. If conditions necessitate the grant of remissions next year, Government will certainly consider the request of the honourable members with sympathy and kindness.

Sir some members have spoken about the Devaswom Fund and the gradual reduction in the Government's contribution to it. I may tell the House that the Government have decided recently to increase the contribution to the Devaswom Fund to the minimum of 16 lakhs promised in the Communique issued along with the Proclamation (*hear hear*). The Proclamation, taken as it is, only shows that the contribution shall be not less than forty per cent. of the Ayacut revenue. Along with the Proclamation, a Press Communique was also issued. In the light of what is stated in the Proclamation and the Press Communique, Government have decided once for all that the contribution to the Devaswom Fund shall be not less than 16 lakhs of rupees and at the same time also not less than 40 per cent. of the *Ayacut* revenue. The Honourable members may take it from me that, from 1112 onwards, the Devaswoms will get Rs. 16 lakhs from Government.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know from the member why it is not possible to make that contribution from this year onwards?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The decision was arrived at only very recently after the budget for 1111 had been framed, so that Government have decided to give effect to their decision only from 1112 onwards.

Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai raised the question whether Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme will not be affected by the Cochin Government's decision to develop its own power and not to take current from Travancore. I may say, Sir, that it is not going to be affected. When the estimate for the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme was prepared, there was no idea of Cochin Government's taking current from Travancore. At that time Cochin's intention was to take power from Pykara. Our estimates were based on the assumption that Cochin would not take power from us. Subsequently there was a suggestion that Cochin might take power from Pallivasal, but now the Cochin Government seems to have decided to generate it own electric power. The Electrical Engineer is quite hopeful that, in course of time, there will be enough demand in Travancore itself for all the power generated at Pallivasal.

Then Sir, about the Ayurveda Department, I must say that, during last few years, Government have not been able to increase the number of grants to the Ayurveda Vaidyasalas. But you will find from the budget for the next year that provision has been made for twenty new grants next year. Government are fully alive to the necessity of encouraging and developing this system of medicine.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Thiruvala III*): May I know whether the provision is made for the Ayurveda Vydians or dispensaries.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A lump sum provision has been made. It may be for both.

Then, Sir, with regard to town-planning, a question has been asked by Mr. Karayalar why it is that, out of, 7 lakhs only Rs. 5½ lakhs are provided under debt heads and the balance under ordinary revenue. There is a proposal to construct a road from the Observatory to the Central Station and the idea is to acquire all the lands in the Tampanur valley at a cost of about Rs. 5 lakhs, then construct the road, plot out the area and re-sell the plots. Government hope to realise the whole investment and also some profits by doing so. This amount need not therefore be taken out of the general revenues but only out of the Debt Head Advances. In regard to Rs. 1½ lakhs, this sum is allotted for the improvement of the main road from the School of Arts to the Cantonment Junction. In this case, all that is contemplated is to actually carry out the improvement of the road. Government do not expect to recover any portion of the expenditure, and it will therefore be met out of the general revenues.

Then with regard the drinking water supply in coastal areas. This is a problem which the Government have taken seriously to heart. The question of supplying drinking water to all classes of people in the State is a matter of grave concern to Government. My friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai will admit that the Government have already made provision for tackling the problem of supplying water to the inhabitants, of three Municipalities, namely, Alleppey, Nagercoil, and Shencotta, and my friend may take it from that the Government are not going to stop there. They will pursue the policy and as early as practicable they will also make provision for the supply of drinking water to the people in the coastal area. The scheme will have to the worked out in different stages. (Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai: *hear, hear.*)

Then, Sir, about the Health Unit in Shertala. A great deal of discussion took place at the meeting of the Finance Committee about the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara which has been running for the last three or four years. I suppose I will not be divulging a secret, if I say anything about this discussion. The non-officials thought that there was no longer any necessity to continue the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara and suggested that, if necessary, the activities of the Neyyattinkara Health Unit might be transferred to Shertalai. They were very considerate to Shertalai but very unkind to Neyyattinkara. They wanted to transfer the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara to Shertala. Government thought that the Health Unit at Neyyattinkara should not be abolished as it had already done some good work and considered it necessary to continue it there for some years more. Government may however transfer a portion of the staff and funds allotted for the Neyyattinkara Health Unit to Shertala, so that next year instead of

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having one full unit at Neyyattinkara, there may be two units, though not of full growth, at Neyyattinkara and Shertala. This, I believe, is the idea of Government and it may be possible to carry it out.

Then, Sir, with regard to the much talked of standardisation of salaries, I think a great deal of misconception exists in the minds of the members. Honourable members will remember that they themselves have over and over again pressed for a permanent reduction in the establishment charges. They have stated that the establishment charges have gone up to about a crore of rupees or so and that, compared with countries like Japan, etc., the establishment charges here are considerably high. What they have been insistently urging is a permanent reduction of establishment charges. What does the standardisation aim at? It is meant to bring about a permanent reduction in the establishment charges. Government may not be able to realise all the anticipated savings immediately, but they hope that gradually the establishment charges can be reduced by about Rs. 5 lakhs. I do not say that there will be no savings at all this year or next year. There will be some savings. But it will take some years before any substantial savings could be made. Some of the honourable members have suggested a temporary cut in the salaries. You cannot have both the permanent reduction and the temporary cut. The advantages of the permanent cut will be fully realised only in course of time. If you want the salary cut to be effected at a flat rate and then restore the cut when the financial conditions improve, then there will be no permanent reduction in the establishment charges, which is what the standardisation aims at.

MR. E V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Sir, we want the Chief Secretery to speak fully on this.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The wish of the honourable member will be considered, but the Chair retains the authority to decide. If that is the general wish, that will be remembered.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If you make a salary cut at the rate of say 5 per cent. or 10 per cent., the establishment charges will not be reduced permanently unless the cut is made permanent.

It must be remembered that the honourable members have been pressing for a permanent reduction in the salaries.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): May I know from the member whether this temporary cut would not enable the Government to tide over the economic depression to some extent?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. I admit that there will be some immediate savings. But look at the other side of the question. The honourable members have repeatedly said that the establishment charges in Travancore have gone up

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai]

abnormally and must be brought down permanently. That, I say, can be done either by a permanent cut at a flat rate or by standardisation scheme which would affect only the future entrants to Government service and not the present officers. They will continue to draw their present salaries and those who come hereafter come in with their eyes open. If the object of the honourable members is to have a permanent reduction in the establishment charges, I say - —

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Will there be any cut in the present salary of the existing staff when they leave those posts?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think so.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I think there is already a ruling by the President to the effect that one is not bound to answer a question. The ruling given by the Deputy President means that an answer may be given if a member is able to give one. It means the physical ability or the readiness of the member to give that. I am unable to give a ruling on the mental condition of the member who is to answer.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Some honourable members have said that there is great discontent among the public servants on account of the standardisation. I think it is more or less an imaginary fear. As I have already said, those who are now in service will continue to draw their present salaries, and those who come hereafter do so with their eyes open. After all, have Government reduced the minimum pay of the low-paid subordinates? No. On the other hand, they have increased the pay of some of them. For instance, clerks in the Registration Department, who were getting Rs. 18, will get hereafter Rs. 20 per mensem. You will hardly find any case in which the minimum pay of the low-paid servants has been reduced. Some newspapers have alleged that the pay of the low-paid subordinates has been cut down and that of the high officers raised. That is a wrong statement based on a total misconception of facts. Government have not reduced the pay of the low-paid subordinates at all. Some honourable members have said that, under the present scheme, a man will have to wait for 60 years to get the maximum pay of his grade. Honourable members must understand that nobody is going to remain in a particular post till he retires A clerk who enters service on Rs. 25 to 40 may be promoted to the next higher grade before he reaches the maximum. Hardly any will remain where he is.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Have any appointments been made subsequent to the proclamation of the standardisation scheme?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I don't remember at present.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Can the honourable member enlighten the House whether there was any agreement between the Government and the Titaghur Paper Mills?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. All that Government have done is to ask the Titaghur Paper Mills to experiment upon the *eatta* available in our forests to see whether it could be used for the manufacture of paper. If the experiment proves successful, Government may arrange with this firm or any other firm to open the paper mill here or Government may themselves open one.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I have only five minutes more.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): We cannot hear.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, what I was saying is that I have only five minutes more.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You have got nine minutes more.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, I am thankful to the members on the other side of the House for receiving the budget on, the whole, well. I am grateful to them at the same time for pointing out the limitations of the Budget presented by me. Whatever they are I owe an apology to the members for pointing them out. I have to explain also my position to some extent. In regard to my Budget speech it has been criticised that it has not mentioned anything about the economic depression. The omission is probably due to my natural diffidence. Not that I had been unmindful of it. There has been too much mention of it in the past. My idea of depression is that it is due here, as elsewhere, mainly to world causes and so beyond any remedy that could be easily devised. As far as I am able to gather, this world depression in so far as it has affected in Travancore, has already taken an upward trend. So far regarding the economic depression. There is another matter which the Honourable members pointed out, a point, which I have very sadly omitted to mention in my speech, *viz*, the lot of the agriculturists. Regarding this I may assure the Honourable members that Government have not forgotten it.

The policy of industrialisation is started, as the Honourable members are aware, to better the position of the agriculturists. The Dewan in his speech in January has already made a reference to it. The Government also are seriously considering about the measures to alleviate the distress of the agriculturists as far as possible. They have already appointed a Committee to collect materials and to recommend to Government ways and means by which the agriculturists can be relieved. Then as regards measures to be adopted to alleviate the distress of the agriculturists, Government are waiting for the report of the Agricultural Debts Redemption Committee. Now the cause of the agriculturists' distress is two-fold. A general fall in the price of agricultural produce and the failure of crops due to seasonal conditions. So far as I am able to gather, I now see that the price of paddy and some other articles has risen to some extent.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know the basis for that assumption ?

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MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) I may refer the member to the speech of the Financial Secretary of Madras when he presented his Budget. My impression is that the prices are rising slowly.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): Does the Financial Secretary know that we are importing rice?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASWAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes, I know that. There is next the question of the fall in the yield of agricultural produce. For this it may be seen that we have granted remission this year. The question is what is the position next year. Nobody can be a prophet and anticipate or forecast facts. Probably I myself have been a little bit optimistic about the coming year as remarked by some members.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Can the Financial Secretary tell the House whether the price of cocoanut is increasing?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I disallow that question. We are only concerned with what the Financial Secretary has to say as a representative of the Government.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Sir, can the Financial Secretary refer to the Madras Budget when he is speaking on the Budget of Travancore?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I consider that reference to the Madras Budget is necessary to explain fully a certain view which he had.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): I wish to put one question Sir, on our Budget.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: If you think that there is any relevant question with regard to the Madras Budget, you can put the question.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, I want to know from the Financial Secretary whether the whole of the general reserve of the Government has been drawn up to meet the various items of capital expenditure.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASWAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Not all. Only a portion to the extent of the deficit anticipated next year.

So far as the revenue question is concerned, I was telling the House that I might be a little bit optimistic next year. The land revenue is more or less steady and should approxeximate the demand unless remissions are granted. The revenue under Customs, Excise, and other items are fluctuating and cannot be correctly estimated without adequate data. During the previous years, there has been underestimating of receipts. Probably, I am erring on the other side. But the increase of receipts under Customs, Excise Duty on Matches and some other heads also may contribute to general increase. So far as these relate to our financial position, what you find elsewhere may be different. I think I might have erred in my expectations.

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In regad to over-estimation of anticipated receipts, if any, in the budget, I submit I err in good company.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : On what basis does the Financial Secretary expect Rs. 70,000 from the Law College ?

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): On a point of order, Sir. Is it in order to put a question on a topic different from that which the member in possession is dealing with ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That requires no answer from the Chair. Members are expected to know, in a workable measure, the rules relating to relevancy. I therefore do not propose to give a ruling on the poin t

It is now 3·30. The adjournment motion will be taken up,

ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) : മി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ പ്രമേയംപോലെ ഞാനും ഒരടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയം അയച്ചിരുന്നു. ആ സംഗതി മി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ പ്രമേയത്തോടുങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നതായതുകൊണ്ടു അതനുവദിച്ചില്ല. അതിനാൽ ആ പ്രമേയത്തെപ്പറ്റിക്കൂടി സംസാരിക്കാൻ എനിക്കവകാശമുണ്ടായിരിക്കണം.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : There is only one adjournment motion now before the House, and Mr. Velayudhan Pillai makes it. Mr. Varughese can, as a member, speak on the motion : but as he says that he too had tabled a similar motion, some little more time may be allowed to him.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : On a point of order, Sir. Mr. Varughese's motion was not admitted. I wish to know how the fact that he happened to send up a motion can affect the debate when we have had no legal notice of it. As I said, that motion was not admitted.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai cannot question the ruling of the Chair. The Chair has used deliberate language.

MR K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I was not questioning the ruling of the Chair.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I certainly understand that it is only legitimate doubts that Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai generally raises. But all the same, since Mr. Varughese is also a member of this House especially in view of the fact that the Chair has got some little latitude in allowing a little more time to particular members, in the light of my ruling, the so-called point of order raised by Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai does not arise. The Chair has ruled, and there is an end of ths matter.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : സർ, ഈ സഭയുടെ സ്വീകരണത്തിനായി ഞാൻ സമർപ്പിക്കുന്ന അടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയം ഇതാണ് :

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